280 N. OLD WOODWARD AVENUE, STE. 400, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48009-5394 (248) 647-6000 GIFFORD, KRASS, GROH, SPRINKLE, ANDERSON & CITKOWSKI, P.C.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

- 1. (Currently Amended) An orthopaedic fixation system, comprising:
- a bone anchor having proximal and distal ends and an outer sidewall <u>outwardly advancing</u> tangs or barbs to assist with fixation; and
- a connector having portion that engages with the bone anchor once in position and an arm that engages with an existing stabilizing rod.
 - 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Original) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 1, wherein the proximal end of the bone anchor is at or near the surface of a bone once in position.
- 4. (Original) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 1, wherein the connector is an elbow.
- 5. (Original) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 1, wherein an existing stabilizing rod is generally transverse to the arm.
 - 6. (New) An orthopaedic fixation system, comprising:
- a bone anchor having proximal and distal ends and wherein the proximal end is substantially at the surface of a bone once in position; and
- a connector having portion that engages with the bone anchor once in position and an arm that engages with an existing stabilizing rod.
- 7. (New) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 6, wherein the bone anchor includes outwardly advancing tangs or barbs to assist with fixation.
 - 8. (New) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 6, wherein the connector is an elbow.

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- 9. (New) An orthopaedic fixation system, comprising:
- a bone anchor having proximal and distal ends; and
- an elbow having portion that engages with the bone anchor once in position and an arm that engages with an existing stabilizing rod.
- 10. (New) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 9, wherein the bone anchor includes outwardly advancing tangs or barbs to assist with fixation.
- 11. (New) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 9, wherein the proximal end of the bone anchor is substantially at the surface of a bone once in position.
- 12. (New) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 9, wherein an existing stabilizing rod is generally transverse to the arm.
- 13. (New) The orthopaedic fixation system of claim 9, wherein an existing stabilizing rod is generally transverse to the arm.